

# Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

## Agricultural Production and Farm Labor Survey



The Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning is currently studying the housing needs of farmworkers in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. We are seeking your input as a major stakeholder to provide the County with a more accurate assessment of active agricultural uses in the unincorporated areas and their corresponding housing needs.

The Department will compile the results of the surveys. If you would like a copy of the results, or to get involved, please provide your contact information at the end of this survey. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Gretchen Siemers or Anne Russett of the Department of Regional Planning's Housing Section at (213) 974-6425. *Please return your completed survey by Thursday, July 24, 2008 in the postage-paid envelope provided.*

1. Do you own agricultural land or operate a farm in unincorporated Los Angeles County?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, what is the existing use of any unincorporated land you own that is zoned for agriculture?  
*Please skip to QUESTION 11.*

☐ Vacant

☐ Single-family residence

☐ Other use(s), please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what agricultural uses? *Please check all that apply.*

☐ Nursery crops

☐ Orchard fruit

☐ Strawberries

☐ Grapes

☐ Onions

☐ Root vegetables

☐ Herbs

☐ Vine crops

☐ Hay

☐ Nuts

☐ Apiary

☐ Livestock

☐ Dairy

☐ Other crops or uses, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Based on your answer to Question 1, please identify the crop(s) and the month(s) in which it is harvested. \_\_\_\_\_

3. How many acres do you/your company farm in unincorporated Los Angeles County? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What type of challenges to agricultural production do you currently face? *Please check all that apply.*

☐ None

☐ Water cost/availability

☐ Market competitors

☐ Declining demand for crops being produced

☐ Not enough farm laborers

☐ Lack of agricultural lands

☐ Transportation of crops

☐ Other challenge(s), please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

5. How do you anticipate using your land in the next 10 years? *Please check all that apply.*

☐ Continue farming

☐ Sell property as a farm use

☐ Sell property for housing development

☐ Other use(s), please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

6. During the farm's peak season, how many farm laborers are employed on the farm? \_\_\_\_\_

Of these employees, how many are:

Full-time, permanent farm laborers \_\_\_\_\_

Part-time, permanent farm laborers \_\_\_\_\_

Part-time, seasonal laborers \_\_\_\_\_

Of these employees, how many live:

Alone \_\_\_\_\_

With other farm laborers \_\_\_\_\_

With children \_\_\_\_\_

With spouse/partner & children \_\_\_\_\_

7. What is the average (**hourly / daily / weekly**) wage of your farm labor employees? *Please circle one and provide that wage below.*

Full-time, permanent farm laborers \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Part-time, permanent farm laborers \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Part-time, seasonal laborers \$ \_\_\_\_\_

8. Do you provide employee housing for farm laborers and/or their families? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, *please skip to QUESTION 9.*

If yes, what type of housing do you provide? *Please check and answer all that apply.*

Permanent, seasonal housing (i.e. dormitory-style):

☐ On-site ☐ Off-site How many beds? \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent, year-round housing (i.e. multi- or single-family):

☐ On-site ☐ Off-site How many units? \_\_\_\_\_

Temporary, seasonal housing (i.e. trailers):

☐ On-site ☐ Off-site How many units? \_\_\_\_\_

9. If you do NOT provide employee housing for farm laborers and their families, how many of your employees:

Rent housing:

Within 30 miles of the farm \_\_\_\_\_

Greater than 30 miles away from the farm \_\_\_\_\_

Own a home:

Within 30 miles of the farm \_\_\_\_\_

Greater than 30 miles away from the farm \_\_\_\_\_

Have no housing (i.e. camp in the desert, live in cars, with friends, in a shelter or a motel) \_\_\_\_\_

Housing arrangement unknown \_\_\_\_\_

10. Do you/your company provide farm laborers with transportation to and from work? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, about what percentage of farm laborers travel to work by:

Car (alone)\_\_\_\_\_%

Carpools\_\_\_\_\_%

Bicycle\_\_\_\_\_%

Foot\_\_\_\_\_%

Bus or other public transit\_\_\_\_\_%

11. If you do NOT provide employee housing for farm laborers and their families, what is the main reason why you do not? *Please check all that apply.*

☐ There is not a need

☐ Not financially feasible

☐ The permitting process is too costly

☐ The permitting process is too onerous

☐ Other reason(s), please specify:\_\_\_\_\_

12. In general, is there a need for more farmworker housing in your community? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, why not?\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what type of farmworker housing is needed? *Please check all that apply.*

☐ Permanent, seasonal housing (i.e. dormitory-style)

☐ Permanent, year-round housing (i.e. multi- or single-family)

☐ Temporary, seasonal housing (i.e. trailers)

13. In your opinion, what would help facilitate the development of privately-owned farmworker housing in unincorporated Los Angeles County?\_\_\_\_\_

14. Over the next 10 years, do you feel that the opportunities for agricultural production will **(thrive / remain stable / decline)** in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County? *Please circle one.*

While we have tried to reach all those involved in agricultural production, if you find that we have missed an important player or organization with this survey, please let us know by providing their contact information below.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Please provide your contact information (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like to provide input on the farmworker housing ordinance.

☐ I would like to know more about the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update – Town & Country.

☐ I would like to see the results of this survey.

**THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY.**

*Please return your completed survey by Thursday, July 24, 2008 in the postage-paid envelope provided.*